

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add Claims 60-69, to read as follows:

1-27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) A liquid discharge recording head mountable on a liquid discharge recording apparatus including a wiping blade for wiping a facing end of said liquid discharge recording head having an opening for discharging ink, said liquid discharge recording head comprising:

a main body;

an orifice plate mounted to said main body of said liquid discharge recording head, said orifice plate being provided with a facing end; and

an extrusion provided in a vicinity of an edge portion of said orifice plate on an upstream side with respect to an advancing direction of the wiping blade when the wiping blade makes sliding contact with the facing end of said orifice plate, said extrusion protruding from the facing end of said orifice plate.

29. (Previously Presented) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 28, wherein no extrusion is formed to protrude from the facing end of said orifice plate on any location of a front face of said recording head main body other than the vicinity of said edge portion of said orifice plate on the upstream side with respect to the advancing direction of the

wiping blade when the wiping blade makes sliding contact with the facing end of said orifice plate.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 28, wherein a curved face or an inclined face is formed on a ridge portion of said extrusion, an outer wall of said extrusion on the upstream side with respect to the advancing direction of the wiping blade and a ceiling end of said extrusion intersecting each other at said ridge portion.

32. (Previously Presented) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 31, wherein said curved face or inclined face is formed to allow a tip end of the wiping blade to be in contact therewith when the wiping blade begins to move in the advancing direction.

33. (Previously Presented) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 28, wherein a width of said extrusion in a direction orthogonal to the advancing direction of the wiping blade is formed to be wider than a width of the wiping blade, and the wiping blade is structured to be able to be in contact with said extrusion over the entire width of the wiping blade.

34. (Previously Presented) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 28, wherein cleaning means for cleaning a wiping face of the wiping blade is arranged on the upstream side of said extrusion with respect to the advancing direction of the wiping blade.

35. (Previously Presented) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 28, wherein the advancing direction of the wiping blade is a direction parallel to an alignment direction of a discharge port array of said orifice plate.

36. (Previously Presented) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 28, wherein the advancing direction of the wiping blade is a direction orthogonal to an alignment direction of a discharge port array of said orifice plate, and a width of said extrusion in a direction orthogonal to the advancing direction of the wiping blade is formed to be larger than an entire length of said discharge port array.

37. (Previously Presented) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 28, wherein a plurality of discharge port arrays are arranged in parallel on said orifice plate, and said extrusion is formed individually for each of said discharge port arrays.

38. (Previously Presented) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 28, wherein a plurality of discharge port arrays are arranged in parallel on said orifice plate, and said extrusion is formed individually for each of a plurality of discharge port groups that discharge liquid of the same kind.

39-59. (Canceled)

60. (New) A liquid discharge recording head mountable on a liquid discharge recording apparatus including a wiping blade for wiping a periphery of an opening for discharging ink to a recording medium, said liquid discharge recording head comprising:

a sheet member adhered to an end face of said liquid discharge recording head, which is opposed to the recording medium, a surface of said sheet member being rubbed with said wiping blade when said wiping blade wipes the periphery of the opening; and

a projection provided in a vicinity of an end portion of said sheet member upstream of an advancing direction of said wiping blade, said projection projecting with respect to the surface of said sheet member.

61. (New) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 60, wherein no projection is formed to project with respect to the surface of said sheet member on any location of a front face of a recording head main body other than the vicinity of said end portion of said sheet member upstream of the advancing direction of the wiping blade.

62. (New) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 60, wherein a curved face or an inclined face is formed on a ridge portion of said projection, an outer wall of said projection upstream of the advancing direction of the wiping blade and a ceiling end of said projection intersecting each other at said ridge portion.

63. (New) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 62, wherein said curved face or inclined face is formed to allow a tip end of the wiping blade to be in contact therewith when the wiping blade begins to move in the advancing direction.

64. (New) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 60, wherein a width of said projection in a direction orthogonal to the advancing direction of the wiping blade is formed to be wider than a width of the wiping blade, and the wiping blade is structured to be able to be in contact with said projection over the entire width of the wiping blade.

65. (New) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 60, wherein cleaning means for cleaning a wiping face of the wiping blade is arranged on the upstream side of said projection with respect to the advancing direction of the wiping blade.

66. (New) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 60, wherein the advancing direction of the wiping blade is a direction parallel to an alignment direction of a discharge port array of said sheet member.

67. (New) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 60, wherein the advancing direction of the wiping blade is a direction orthogonal to an alignment direction of a discharge port array of said sheet member, and a width of said projection in a direction orthogonal to the advancing direction of the wiping blade is formed to be larger than an entire length of said discharge port array.

68. (New) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 60, wherein a plurality of discharge port arrays are arranged in parallel on said sheet member, and said projection is formed individually for each of said discharge port arrays.

69. (New) A liquid discharge recording head according to Claim 60, wherein a plurality of discharge port arrays are arranged in parallel on said sheet member, and said projection is formed individually for each of a plurality of discharge port groups that discharge liquid of the same kind.